

THE EXPRESSION

May 2024 ~ NEWSLETTER



CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668
(412) 795-1212

Pastor Wayne Gillespie
Email: office@christsmurrysville.org
Website: christsmurrysville.org
App: Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)

Services

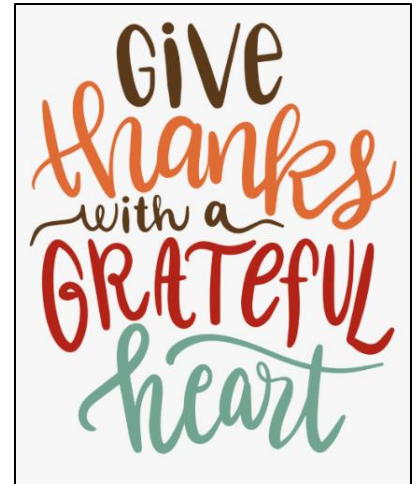
Saturday Evening – 6:00 pm
Sunday Worship – 10:00 am
Sunday School – 9:00 am



From the Pastor

We live in a world where we can become overwhelmed by negativity and lose sight of the ways that God is blessing us. Learning to express our gratitude is important. Gratitude is a practice that enriches our lives and that can strengthen our connections with God and with other people. Let's join in an exciting journey that cultivates a spirit of gratitude in our lives this month. Here are three easy things you can do.

- Daily Gratitude Rituals:** It's easy for us to overlook small miracles and blessings that grace our path through life when we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of daily living. Taking just a few short moments each day to express our gratitude can significantly shift our perspective and fill our hearts with joy. Carving out time to thank God for the abundance that fills our lives can become a powerful practice whether we do it through prayer and meditation, or by just reflecting on the day's blessings. Perhaps, this month, you could start a gratitude journal and spend time at the beginning or end of each day jotting down three things that you're thankful for. This simple act of acknowledging the blessings in your life can amplify feelings of contentment and appreciation in daily living.
- Express Appreciation:** Gratitude not only nourishes our souls, but it can also strengthen relationships. Look for opportunities to express heartfelt appreciation to those around you this month. Whether it's a kind gesture, a supportive word, or a helping hand, acknowledging the efforts of others fosters a culture of kindness. Take some time to thank your loved ones, colleagues, and even strangers for the positive impact they've had on your life. A sincere word of thanks has the power to uplift spirits and to forge connections. A spirit of gratitude can also create a ripple effect that can positively affect our families, the ministry of our church, and even the whole world.



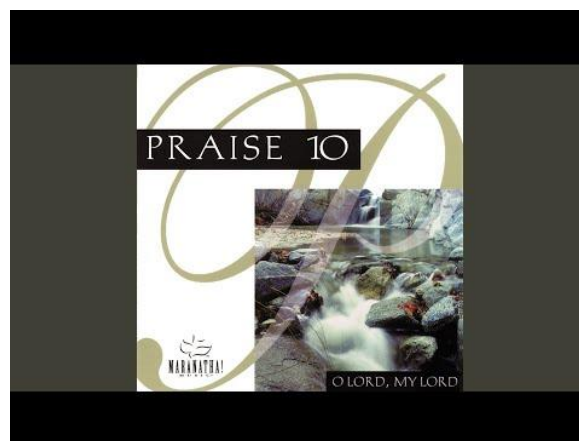
3. **Use our “Book of Blessings”**: Incorporating gratitude into our spiritual practices can deepen our connection with God, and it can even enhance our worship. We have a "Book of Blessings" in the Narthex (at the back of our church’s worship space), so that you can reflect upon and share ways you've been blessed. Taking a few moments to jot down a way that God’s blessed you in the last week fosters gratitude in your own life, reinforces the notion of a supportive community at our church, and even bears witness in a way that can strengthen the faith of other people. Imagine entering the house of God with a heart brimming with thanksgiving each week and feeling the joy that is created and inspired by the many blessings that are documented in the pages of our “Book of Blessings.”

We can invite abundance and joy into our lives, transform challenges into opportunities for growth and connection, and build up the ministry of our church by living our lives with a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving. Let this month serve as a testament to the power of gratitude, as we turn away from the chaos and negativity that often surround us, and instead, choose to live with a spirit of thanksgiving in our hearts. We can cultivate a culture of gratitude that uplifts and inspires us all by simply learning to celebrate the blessings in our lives and by living our lives with a sense of gratitude.

Here's a link to a YouTube video to get you started on this month’s journey:

You may need to indicate that you want to watch the video on YouTube after you click the box below.

<https://youtu.be/FMryBwOk2jk> - “Give Thanks”



Welcome our new Parish Administrator!



We are so happy to welcome Kari Morgan as part of our ministry here at CLC! Kari comes to us from an ELCA church in South Dakota where she was their Parish Administrator.

Hi! I am happy to be here! I originally grew up in Blairsville, PA. I met my husband in Denver, CO at school, and I moved out to the Midwest afterwards, close to his family. We married shortly after I moved there, and I lived in South Dakota for a little over 20 years, near my husband's family. My family and I decided to move back to Pennsylvania about a year and a half ago to be closer to my family, which all live around this area. We bought a house last summer, and we currently live in Ligonier. My kids attend Ligonier Vally Middle School. I can't wait to meet you all!

Kari's office hours will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9am – 2pm.

You can contact the office at office@christsmurrysville.org or by calling 412-795-1212.

CHURCHCOUNCIL

Barth Tamenne — President

Kim Boyer — Vice President

Ron Spagna — Secretary

Dave & Barb Hall — Treasurer

Bela Molnar — Financial Secretary

Linda Paulovitch – Congregation Secretary

George Meade

John Schultz

Carol Tamenne

Thank you for serving!

If you are interested in sitting in on a council meeting, or becoming a council member, please contact a council member or the church office.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS from the April 18th meeting:

- Ryan Ebner from the ELCA Foundation spoke to council about Legacy Gifting. Council is looking for individuals from our congregation to talk about Qualified Charitable Distributions and other gifting opportunities for the benefit of CLC.
- Pastor Wayne announced that the Subsplash website is expected to launch in May.
- VBS is scheduled for June 24th-27th.
- The annual Spring cleanup is scheduled for April 27th with a rain date of May 4th.
- An offer letter was extended to Kari Morgan for the Parish Administrator position. (She accepted! 😊)
- The Endowment Fund Committee gave \$3,393.64 which council voted to use for Synod Mission Support.
- Plans are being made for a mortgage burning party.
- The Gas Lease remains in legal review.
- Sandi Shaffer volunteered to join the Church Council for one year. She also volunteered to be the chairperson of the Stewardship committee. Thank you, Sandi!
- The next council meeting will be held on May 16th at 6:30 pm.

We appreciate the continued commitment of our Readers, Worship Assistants, Reconcilers, Tech Team, Ushers, and many others who make our worship services possible. Click on "Join a Weekend Worship Team" on our app to sign up to be a part of our worship.

Thank you for your Time & Talent!



Come join us for a night of Music, Entertainment, and Fellowship at Christ's Lutheran Church featuring:



Ring Pittsburgh!

**Friday May 3, 2024
7:30pm**

Ring Pittsburgh is a community handbell choir founded in 2016 by James Rosetti, who serves as Music and Artistic Director. This ensemble of experienced musicians uses their unique musical art form to entertain and educate audiences across the Pittsburgh area. Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. For more information visit: www.ringpittsburgh.org

Reminder Corner:

The Reminder Corner is a place where you can find important meetings that are happening in the church this month:



May 1st @ 9:00 am
May 6th @ 6:30 pm
May 7th @ 6:30 pm
May 12th @ 11:00 am
May 13th @ 6:30 pm
May 16^h @ 6:30 pm

Property Team Meeting
Worship & Music Team Meeting
Support Team Meeting
Congregational Life Meeting
Outreach Team Meeting
Council Meeting

MAKE NOISE FOR MISSION!!!

May 4th and 5th is our Make Noise for Mission Sunday. We celebrate the first Sunday of each month by putting change in two cans – one located on the offering table and one up front by the baptismal font. The donations benefit our sister church, Trinity Lutheran on the North Side, so let's all make some **NOISE!!!**



**CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS BACK!
JUNE 24th – 27th 9 AM - NOON**



Volunteers needed! A volunteer meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4th at 10:00am in the upstairs social hall. Come join the fun!



Join us for our last day of Sunday School on Sunday, May 12th!
THANK YOU to our teachers Rebekah McKenzie, Sarah Borgia, Amy Wineman, Fran Spagna, and Harry Replogle for their time and dedication this year.

This year's last Confirmation Class will be held on May 5th at 6:00pm. We will celebrate Confirmation on Sunday, May 19th during our Sunday Worship Service, followed by fellowship in the Upper Social Hall. Our confirmands include:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Daniel Borgia | Samantha Cooper | Zachary Cooper |
| Noah Madden | Charlotte McKenzie | Lucy McKenzie |
| Brynn Rogers | Levi Salenske | Abby Wineman |



**Ava Nazak
Gavin Yurisinec**



Caring Hearts & Hands will meet on Thursday, May 9th at 9:15 am in the downstairs fellowship hall. We will gather at 9:15 am for an organizational meeting followed by brunch at a local restaurant. We invite you to join us for either one or both events that morning. For any questions concerning our mission or our May 9th gathering, **contact Inge Pizzica at 412-298-9532.**

Join us on Saturday, May 11th at 8:30 am in the lower social hall for a traditional breakfast and fellowship. The only thing you need to bring is a hearty appetite!



MEN'S BREAKFAST



You Are Invited to CampBlast!

Saturday, May 11th 2024, 11am-4:30pm

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Pony rides, campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, zipline, bouldering room, hiking, nature activities, hay rides, games, sports, LEGO room, tours, great food, and MORE!

The best part... **EVERYTHING IS FREE!**
www.lutherlyn.com/campblast

\$100 off for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off of the registration fee for Summer 2024. This applies to Lutherlyn's residential week-long programs. Young Folks half-week programs get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers. Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days.

Must be a FIRST-TIME summer camper.

No additional discounts may be combined with this offer.

Enter coupon code: **FIRST**

Register at **WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM**.

(Please share this code with friends!)

Lutherlyn's 2024 Summer Camp Schedule

Week 1 June 16-21	-Staff-In-Training (SH) -Life in the Wild (JH) -Adventurers (JH & SH)	-Classic (Jr) (SH) -Horse Camp (JH & SH) -Confirmation Camp
Week 2 June 23-28	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Horse Camp (Jr) -Small Fry Days (Th & Fri) -Confirmation Camp	-Adventurers (JH & SH) -Young Folks (Sun-Wed) -Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri)
Week 3 June 30 - July 5	-Family Camp -On-Site Day Camp (1st-5th grade)	
Week 4 July 7-12	-Arts & Musical (Jr & JH) -Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH) -Life in the Wild (Jr)	-Horse Camp (Jr) -Adventurers (JH & SH)
Week 5 July 14-19	-Classic (Jr) (JH) (SH) -Adventurers PLUS (SH) -Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)	-Horse Camp (JH & SH) -Young Folks (Sun-Wed) -Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri)
Week 6 July 21-26	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Horse Camp (Jr) -Junior Adventurers (Jr)	-Venture (SH) -Rocketry (JH & SH)
Week 7 July 28- August 2	-Classic (Jr) (JH) -Rocketry (Jr) -Horse Camp (JH & SH)	-Night Owls (JH & SH) -Adventurers (JH & SH)

"Young Folks" - campers enter grades 2-3, "Jr" - campers enter grades 4-6, "JH" - campers enter grades 7-9, "SH" - campers enter grades 10-12 or 2024 graduate

Registration for 2024 starts on February 1.
 Camperships are available for all who need assistance.
 Visit www.lutherlyn.com/summer for details.

MAY 11TH & 12TH - CHRIST'S LITTLE PANTRY WEEKEND



THANK YOU to all who have helped to keep the Little Pantry filled. The second weekend of each month is designated as **Christ's Little Pantry Weekend**, although you can bring food to put into the Little Pantry with you on any weekend. You can be a part of this life-changing ministry by bringing one or two items with you when you come to worship on that weekend and by placing your generous gift in the collection box in the Entryway, or directly into the Little Pantry, which is located in our lower parking lot. Let's work together to keep our Little Pantry full!!

Current pantry needs: Crackers, fruit cups, snack bars, peanut butter, jelly, juice, pasta sauces, pancake mix, syrup, and cereal.

Your kindness is truly appreciated. Thank you!



THANK YOU to the Madden Family, the McCurry's, the Meades, and John Schultz for weeding and edging flower beds, raking leaves, spreading mulch, and general yard clean up. Thank you, Adrienne, for providing another delicious lunch. We would also like to thank Eric Gipson, Scott Wineman, and Eric Waxbom for another season of lawn cutting and trimming to keep our church property looking beautiful.

2024 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



High School Graduation is an important and exciting time. We would like to recognize the students who will be graduating in 2024, as they move on with their future and opportunities. Please let us know if you have a student who will be graduating this year. A photo and a summary of your graduate's plans and activities/interests can be submitted to the church office at office@christsmurrysville.org. The information will be posted on our church bulletin board. We're looking forward to congratulating these students!

The Care Corner

The Care Corner is a place where we can connect with each other and share news about important events in each other's lives. If you have information that you would like to share in the Care Corner, please send it to: office@christsmurrysville.org



Care Corner

We are both pleased and excited to welcome Carl Lingelbach and Joyce Perroue as new partners in ministry at Christ's Lutheran Church. Welcome Carl and Joyce!

Congratulations to Joel Magnotti and Madison Gestrich who were married on Saturday, April 13th here at the church. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Magnotti!



Welcome Juliana Isla Hogan! She was born on March 27th, weighing 6lb. 13 oz. She is the daughter of Daniel and Amanda Federovich Hogan. Juliana will be baptized on Sunday, June 9th during our worship service.



We kindly ask that you continue to pray for our CLC members, family, and friends of members who are included in our weekly prayer list:



Don Beckett, John Colosmo, Debbie Faust, Steve Gebhard, Bob Gustafson, Ronald "Gus" Gustafson, Peggy Henry, Oren Keibler, John Magnus, Lara Eddy McClain, Charlie Meade, Romaine Miller, Lorri Nixon, Linda O'Donnell, Michael O'Donnell, Paul Rizzo, Andrea Schwartz Nutter, Barbara Salenske, Bob Stover, and Mark Yandura.

We are honored to continue journeying through life with people who have been faithful partners in ministry for many years, but who are now homebound, including: Janet Beall, Hjalma Bue, Gail Byrne, Joseph Cashell, Shirley Daum, Bertha DeCecco, Bob DeCecco, Robin DeCecco, Irene Evans, Bill Farrell, Marlene Gerdes, Dick and Genny Harvanek, Peggy Henry, Oren and Anna Mae Keibler, Irmgard Kuuskler, Lena Lowenadler, Audrey Mauro, Mary May, Betty Reagan, Barbara Salenske, Anna Sheasley, Helen Sward, Marianne Trainor, Marge Wagle and Donna Yoder.



We ask for continued prayers of family and friends for Grace Lucas, Pastor H. Blaine West, Richard Hood, Howard Rockette, and Jean Bottorf.

Audrey Ferris is our Prayer Circle coordinator. You can reach her at: (724) 327-3738 or by sending an email to: audrey.m.ferris@gmail.com (Please indicate on the subject line that it relates to the prayer circle).

As you look at the prayer list this month, please note any changes or updates that should be made and let the Church Office know by emailing office@christsmurrysville.org

MISSION PARTNERS

WE PRAY FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS & FRIENDS:

The week of:

May 5th

Sandra Lee
Carl Lingelbach & Joyce Perrone
Jeff & Carol Long
Gerry & Cindy Lott

May 12th

Lena Lowenadler
Walt Luniewski
Robert & Susan Lyons
Aaron, Lynn, Caroline & Noah Madden

May 19th

Daniel & Nancy Sward-Martin & Family
Eric & Alicia Matz
Al Matz
Audrey Mauro

May 26th o

Larry & Shirley Mauro
Mary May
Greg & Debbie McClemens
Stephanie, Paul, & Ruby McClintock

MISSION MOMENT CORNER

Coming Soon!

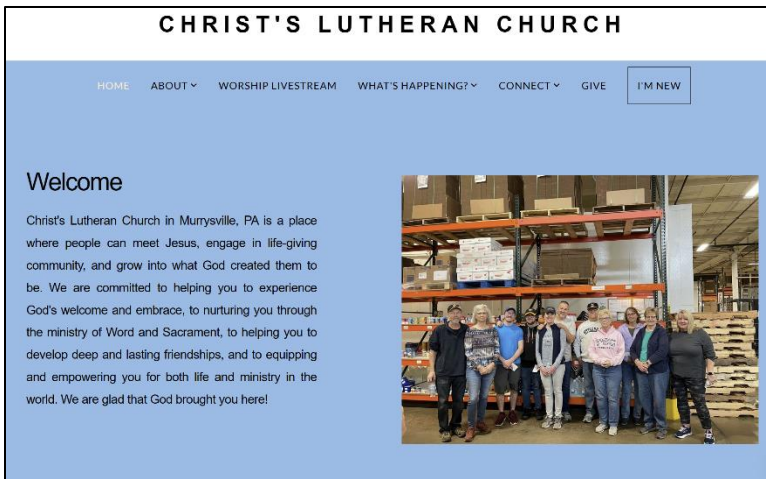
Have you noticed how quickly things are changing these days?

We never imagined that we'd be contacting our family doctors using MyChart just a few years ago, or that our telephones would send us a short message to let us know that it's time to pick up a refill of a prescription. Our televisions used to be so much easier to use; but now, we have to know the difference between HDMI1 and HDMI2, and we often need to figure out how to use multiple remotes. Many of us had never used Zoom just a few years ago, and many of us had never imagined being able to worship at home on YouTube or listen to last week's sermon on an app while we are driving. Websites – particularly the websites that churches use – have changed, too.

Our church's website was once simply used to share information about our church and its ministry; but now, it can be used as a power tool for outreach, and that's why **we are going to be updating our website in the next few weeks.** Churches have learned that it's important to reach people in different ways.

We released our new app several months ago, and we are using it, primarily, as a tool to share information with people who are already members of our church. If you haven't downloaded it yet, you can easily do it by scanning this QR Code on your cell phone. Our app gives us a way to share information with you, and it gives you easy access to our church's calendar, a Bible reading program, an easy way to let us know about ways that you want to use your skills and talents in ministry, an easy way to add someone to our prayer list or contact the church office, and even an easy way to register for VBS.

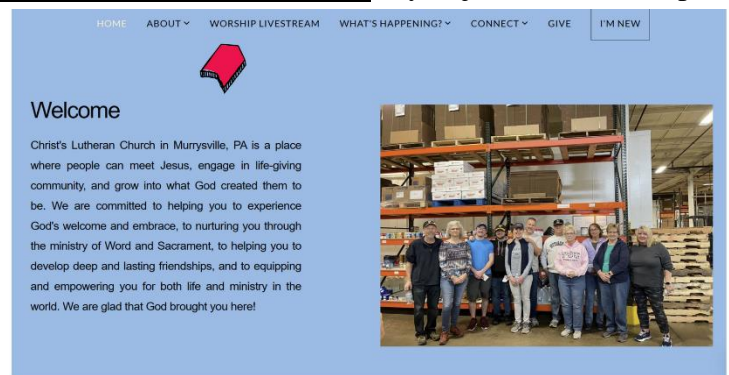




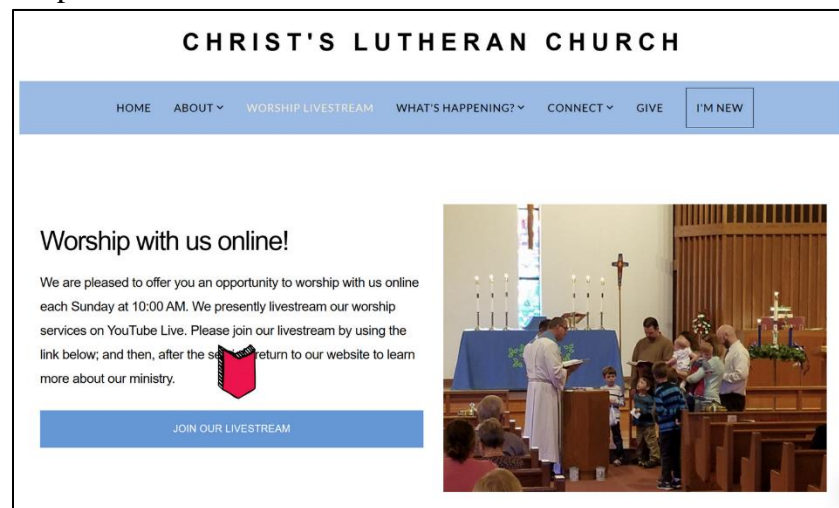
Our new website has a different purpose. You can still find lots of information about our ministry, but our new website is primarily designed to meet the needs of those who want a quick glimpse of what Christ's Lutheran Church is all about. People who use our new website will be more easily able to contact us, to schedule a baptism or meet with the pastor, to add a person to our prayer list or to join our worship livestream, to learn more about what times we gather for worship, and to even learn more about what our worship services are like and how people dress when they gather for worship at Christ's Lutheran Church. Our new website is about building relationships, connecting with people who want to know more about our ministry, and enabling people to take the next step forward if they want to learn more about our ministry or if they're interested in joining hands with us in ministry.

Our new website will also offer you an easy way to join our worship livestream. If you join us in worship

using the YouTube link on your television, nothing will change. However, if you join our livestream using the church website, you will need to get to the link to YouTube in a slightly different way. But the good news is – it's easy! You will find a button at the top of our website entitled: Worship Livestream (how easy is that?). Simply click the Worship Livestream button at the top of our website and you're on your way! There's just one last step....



Once you have clicked the "Worship Livestream" button, there's just one last easy step! You will be taken to our "Worship Livestream" page and will see our new "Join Our Livestream" link. Just click the link and you will be taken to the same YouTube page that we have been using since we began to livestream our services. We hope to livestream our worship services right onto our new website soon, but we have run into a few of the bumps that we've all needed to overcome since the pandemic hit.



We hope that our new website will be a new and exciting step forward in our ministry, and we hope that it will be a great tool for our outreach, too. Please don't forget to download our new app if you haven't done it already. We're adjusting. We're learning. We're moving forward into the future that Jesus has planned for Christ's Lutheran Church in a new and exciting time when we are able to share information and help people to connect with our church and ministry in some new ways.



CLC ANNUAL FLEA MARKET AND BAKE SALE

Saturday June 1 ~ 8 am to 2 pm

This year's flea market is rapidly approaching, so we hope you will keep this in mind as you do your spring cleaning! You may drop off your items beginning Thursday, May 23rd and Friday, May 24th during church office hours, 10 am to 2 pm, and Saturday May 25th and Sunday May 26th when you come to worship services. Tuesday, May 28th through Thursday, May 30th, you may drop off items from 9:15 am to 2 pm and from 6 to 8 pm. We will not be accepting items on Friday, May 31st, which will be strictly a workday for our volunteers! Please remember that the volunteers have to unload, sort and price your items, so please make sure your donated items are clean and usable.

Baked goods can be dropped off on Friday, May 31st, during church office hours. Pre-bagged cookies in either ½ or dozen amounts, brownies, mini loaves of breads or cakes are great sellers.

Please remember that we cannot accept the following due to the difficulty or cost of disposing of them if they do not sell: Hazardous materials including automotive oil and lubricants, paints and aerosols, household cleaners, TV's, computers and related items (hardware, software and peripherals), clothing, boots and shoes, large furniture and large exercise equipment such as weigh benches, treadmills, and ellipticals.

Flea market sign-up sheets will be available in the entryway. If you can spare any time to help with set-up, pricing, working the day of the sale, clean up and/or donating baked goods, any amount of time is greatly appreciated. Even if it is just an hour or two! Any youth help would be great as well.

If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Replogle, 724-339-2208 or sareplogle154@gmail.com

As always, the Outreach Committee appreciates your support of our project!



If you would like to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please send the information to the church office by Wednesday. Please have your newsletter articles submitted to the church office on or before the 20th of each month. Articles in ready-to-print form can be emailed to office@christsmurrysville.org. Thank you!

Hey, Kids!

**Come and Join the Fun Monday-
Thursday, June 24-27 9:00 AM until
Noon**



Registration for this year's VBS begins on May 1st



Welcome to the NexTrex Recycling Challenge!

Have you noticed two new plastic recycling bins at the church? Christ's Lutheran Church is now registered as part of the NexTrex plastic recycling challenge. We are part of a nationwide plastics recycling effort from the Trex company. Trex makes composite decking and other materials from recycled plastic. If we can collect 1,000 pounds of plastic in a 12-month period, the Trex company will give the church a Trex bench made from recycled plastic:



Trex Bench

Please bring your plastic items to the church and put them in the bins. The following items can be recycled (All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue):

All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.



Grocery bags



Bread bags



Bubble wrap



Dry cleaning bags



Newspaper sleeves



Ice bags



Plastic shipping envelopes



Ziploc & other reclosable food storage bags



Cereal bags



Case overwrap



Salt bags



Pallet wrap & stretch film

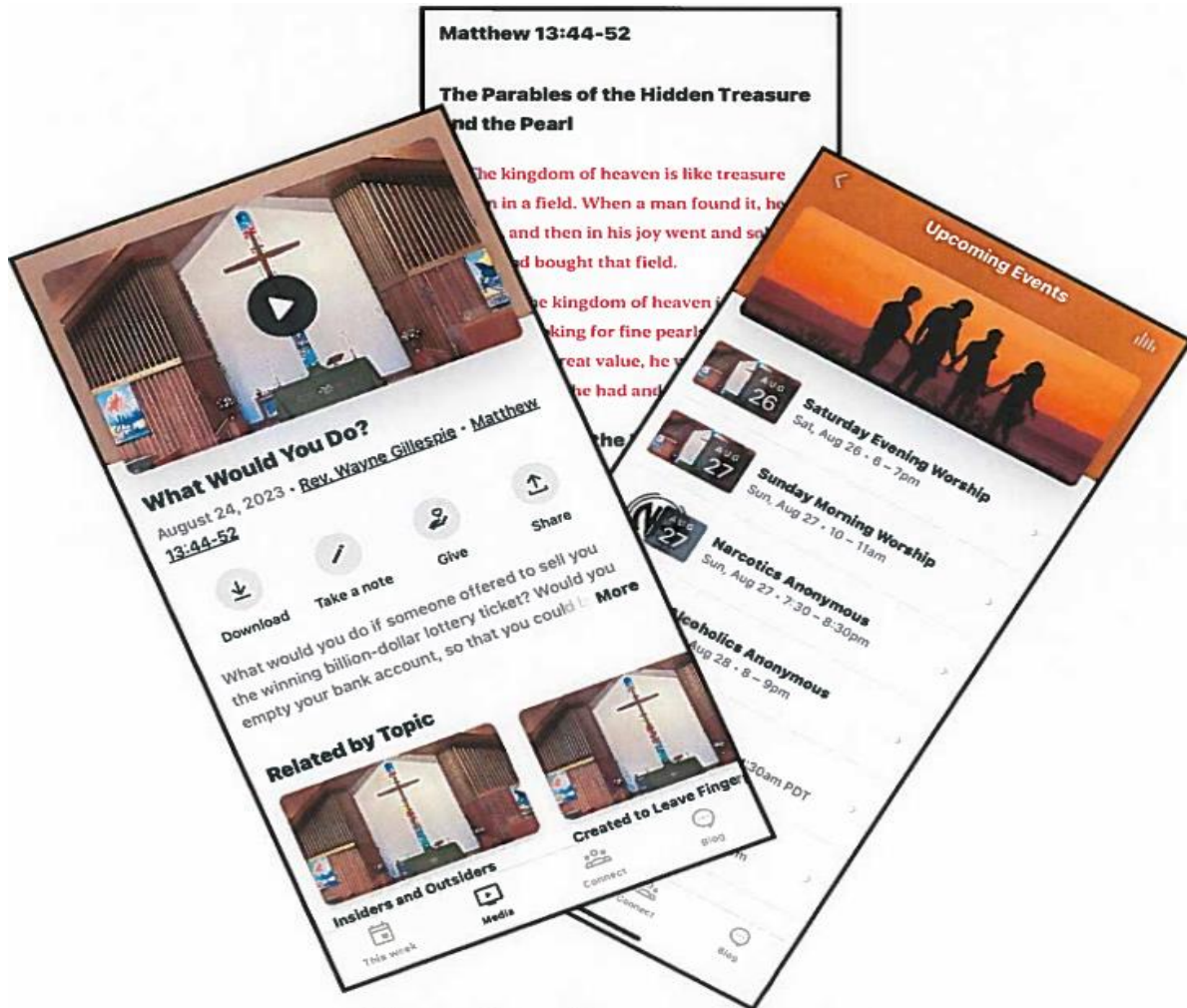


Wood pellet bags



Produce bags

IT'S HERE!!!



SubSplash

A New Way to Worship, Connect, and Engage

https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/subsplash_-_introduction_and_using_the_app_-_pdf_version.pdf



Christ's Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

May 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	5:30pm - Kindermusik 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik	9am - Property Team Mtg 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 6:30pm - ESAL	7:30pm - Ring Pittsburgh	NOISE FOR MISSION 10am - VBS Meeting 6pm - Saturday Worship
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
NOISE FOR MISSION 9am - Sunday School 10am - Sunday Worship 6pm - Confirmation Class 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Worship & 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Support Team	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:15am - Caring Hearts 9:30am - Kindermusik		Christ's Little Pantry 8:30am - Men's Breakfast 11am - LUTHERLYN 6pm - Saturday Worship
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Christ's Little Pantry Congregational Life Mtg 9am - Last Day of Sunday 10am - Sunday Worship 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Outreach Team 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 6:30pm - Council Meeting		6pm - Saturday Worship
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
PENTECOST 10am - Confirmation 10am - Sunday Worship 7:30pm - NA Meeting	5:30pm - Kindermusik 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 3:30pm - Synod BK Club 5:30pm - Kindermusik	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik		6pm - Saturday Worship
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 10am - Sunday Worship 7:30pm - NA Meeting	Church office closed Memorial Day 5:30pm - Kindermusik 8pm - AA Meeting	9am - Sewing Group 9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girls Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 5:30pm - Kindermusik 6pm - Girl Scouts	9:30am - Kindermusik 5pm - Kindermusik Picnic		FLEA MARKET NOISE FOR MISSION 6pm - Saturday Worship

You can also access the May calendar by clicking the link below -

https://www.christsmurrysville.org/uploads/8/2/4/4/82445598/may_2024_calendar.pdf